

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of mapping information to a virtual space, the method comprising,  
2 employing a first plurality of data objects contained within a first data source,  
3 employing a first spatial paradigm for defining a first plurality of hierarchical  
4 relationships between said first plurality of data objects, and  
5 virtually locating said first plurality of data objects in a first portion of said virtual  
6 space through which a user can navigate in a substantially unrestricted fashion.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising associating a first address with said first  
2 portion of said virtual display space.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 further comprising displaying a subset of said first plurality of  
2 said data objects to said user in response to receiving said first address.
- 1 4. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of associating further comprises,  
2 associating a first portion of said first address with a server, and  
3 associating a second portion of said first address with said first plurality of  
4 hierarchical relationships.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein said server is at least one of a virtual server, a physical  
2 server, an Internet server, an intranet server and a remote server.

1 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising enabling a user to view from an adjustable  
2 viewing perspective an appearance of a subset of said first plurality of data objects.

1 7. The method of claim 6 further comprising enabling said user to navigate said data  
2 objects in a substantially and unrestricted fashion.

1 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising,  
2 employing a second plurality of data objects contained within a second data  
3 source,  
4 employing a second spatial paradigm for defining a second plurality of  
5 hierarchical relationships between said second plurality of data objects, and  
6 virtually locating said second plurality of data objects in a second portion of said  
7 virtual space.

1 9. The method of claim 8 further comprising defining a hierarchical relationship in said  
2 virtual space between said first plurality of hierarchical relationships and said second  
3 plurality of hierarchical relationships

1 10. The method of claim 8 further comprising associating a second address with said  
2 second position of said virtual space.

1 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising enabling a user to display from an  
2 adjustable viewing perspective an appearance of a subset of any of said first and said  
3 second plurality of data objects.

1 12. The method of claim 1 further comprising leasing portions of said virtual space.

1 13. The method of claim 1 further comprising selling portions of said virtual space.

1 14. The method of claim 2 wherein said first address is associated with a universal  
2 resource locator ("URL").

1 15. A system for mapping information to a virtual display space, the system comprising,  
2 a computing device adapted to employ a first plurality of data objects contained  
3 within a first data source, and a first spatial paradigm for defining a first plurality of  
4 hierarchical relationships between said first plurality of data objects, and to virtually  
5 locate said first plurality of data objects in a first portion of said virtual space through  
6 which a user can navigate in a substantially unrestricted fashion.

1 16. The system of claim 15 further adapted to associate a first address with said first  
2 portion of said virtual display space.

1 17. The system of claim 16 further adapted to displaying a subset of said first plurality of  
2 said data objects to said user in response to receiving said first address.

1 18. The system of claim 16 further adapted to associate a first portion of said first  
2 address with a server, and to associate a second portion of said first address with said first  
3 plurality of hierarchical relationships.

1 19. The system of claim 18 wherein said server is at least one of a virtual server, a  
2 physical server, an Internet server, an intranet server and a remote server.

1 20. The system of claim 15 further adapted to enable a user to view from an adjustable  
2 viewing perspective an appearance of a subset of said first plurality of data objects.

1 21. The system of claim 20 further adapted to enable said user to navigate said data  
2 objects in a substantially and unrestricted fashion.

1 22. The system of claim 15 further adapted to employ a second plurality of data objects  
2 contained within a second data source and a second spatial paradigm for defining a  
3 second plurality of hierarchical relationships between said second plurality of data  
4 objects, and to virtually locate said second plurality of data objects in a second portion of  
5 said virtual space.

